

2/19/11

Jeffery T. Tochiara, 57**'Jeff'**

In the afternoon of Feb. 16, 2011, a very dear man unexpectedly slipped away and entered into the loving embrace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Jeff was a man of many talents, exceptionally intelligent, and had an amazing amount of compassion and love. He will be sorely missed.



**JEFF
TOCHIHARA**

Jeff was born in Brighton, Colo., in 1953, to Tom and Mildred (Terada) Tochiara. He attended Alsup Elementary School before the family relocated in 1964 to Thousand Oaks, Calif., where he graduated in 1971 from Parks Oak High School. He was an extremely skilled musician, which led him on a journey traveling with a band until he purchased Len Waters music store in Butte. Jeff formed the well-known band Carousal, which entertained for many years throughout the state.

Jeff met the love of his life, Norie (Quinn) and they were united in marriage on Aug. 21, 1982, in a beautiful outdoor ceremony in Butte. Together, they raised an amazing son, Joey, who has exceeded their expectations and has become a wonderful young man that any parent would be proud to call their own.

Later in his life, Jeff earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Montana Tech on May 13, 1995. He held a brief internship with The Montana Power Co. before relocating his family to Absarokee to work as the Human Resource Manager for Still Water Mining Co. for 15 years. After careful consideration, he accepted a position with EBMS in 2009 and was promoted to Vice President a few years later.

Montana Tech extended a Professional Accomplishment Recognition award to Jeff on Oct. 11, 2002. He enjoyed supporting his local

community by sharing his musical talents, directing musical talent shows, volunteering to support local hospitals and schools and

giving his time whenever needed.

Those who went before him were his mother Mildred; sister Eloise and brother-in-law Hal; and father-and mother-in-law, Joe and Irene Quinn.

Surviving relatives include his forever loving wife Norie and beloved son Joey of Billings; his father, Tom Tochiara; brother Rodney (Christine) Tochiara of Big Timber, and nephew Darin (Paige) Tochiara. Sisters-in-laws who loved Jeff like a brother are Cheryl (Mike) Middal of Portland, Ore., Jo Ann (Ed) Staack, Kathy Quinn, Karen (John) Starcevich and Terri Quinn, all of Butte. Nieces and nephews who looked up to their uncle Jeffy are Cassandra, Elizabeth and Ariel Spencer, all of California; Kelly (Adrian) Olmstead, Sam (Eli) Vargas and Kevin Middal of Portland; Brian (Erin) Staack, Bradie Staack, John Starcevich (Diane Sullivan), Lonni Starcevich and T.J. (Leah) Forrest, all of Butte.

A memorial will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 20, at Michelotti-Sawyers Mortuary, 1001 Alderson, Billings.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to any school music program of the donor's choice or ZooMontana.

Michelotti-Sawyers Mortuary is in charge of arrangements and remembrances may be shared with the family at www.michelottisawyers.com.